# Russia's Double Celebration Brings Amnesty to Thousands

France's Defeat and Tercentenary of Romanoff Rule.

Significance of Centenary of prompted in putting forward the candidature of the lad by the virtues of the young fellow's father, the Archbishop and Metropolitan, Theodore, and partly, too, because of the boy's descent through the female line, it is true, from Rurik.

The dynasty of that Scandinavian contemporary of the English King Alfred (coyright, 1912, by The Brentwood Company.) the Great, and who by establishing him-USSIA'S preparations to celebrate self as Grand Prince of Novgorod may this year the centenary of the be said to have been the first of all Rus-French invasion by Napoleon, his sian rulers became extinct in the male defeat and his disastrous retreat from line, with Czar Feodor, in 1598, Feodor Moscow, which had been set on fire by was the son of Ivan the Terrible, and the Muscovites themselves in order to Ivan's sister Anastasia had married NATION'S DEBT TO ROMANOFFS. prevent him from making the city his Nicetas Romanoff. The offspring of this winter quarters, as proposed, remind me union was the Archbishop and Metro-



H. I. M. THE TSAR OF RUSSIA.

that when I was last in the land of the | politan of Moscow, Theodore, who mar Czar there was not an Orthodox church ried Marta, a princess of the House of in any part of the empire where the Rurik. It was their son, Michael Roofficiating clergyman did not offer up on manoff, who was elected Czar in 1613, Sundays and saints' days prayers as and, through the marriage of his anpart and parcel of the liturgy calling cestor, Ivan III, with Sophia Palæologues, down the wrath of heaven and every daughter of Thomas Palæologues, brother conceivable curse upon the French. of Constantine XIII, the last of the These prayers dated from the time of Greek Emperors of Constantinople, he poleon III granted an amnesty to all pothe invasion of Russia by the French, had likewise in his veins the blood of litical offenders at the close of his vic-

Possibly, and probably, these prayers continue to be offered up to this day, in century has elapsed since Russia contracted a close and intimate alliance with France, primarily aimed against Germany and in a lesser degree against Austria. The bulk of the population of Russia consists of ninety millions of mostly illiterate peasants, and since all the little education which the moujiks receive is of a religious character, derived from the village priests, it will readily be understood that the latter, by finning into the ears of their parishioners curses against the French from the altar week after week, have caused the French to be regarded by the peasants in the light of the spirit of evil.

ous rout of the French invading army, to extend to every town and village of afterward became Peter the Great. alliance will receive a jolt and setback, particularly if Emperor William and his diplomatic agents avail themselves of

the opportunity. The celebration of this centennial, which will begin about Easter time and cow was burned, will be blended with the beginning during this summer of the tercentenary of the election of the House of Romanoff to the throne of Russia, the festivities in connection therewith attaining their climax just twelve months hence. People have become so accustomed to look upon Peter the Great as the founder of the House

the celebrated Byzantine dynasty. It is, indeed, on the strength of the descent of the Romanoffs from the Palæologues, French, issued a similar amnesty after spite of the fact that near a quarter of a through the marriage of Ivan III to his return from Elba. The present Sophia of that illustrious family, that French Republic, on the recommendation the Russlans base the pretensions of their rulers to the possession of Con- an amnesty in favor of the 2,245 men stantinople. As the Palæologues became and women sentenced to various forms extinct in the male line with the death of penal servitude for their participation of Sophia's father, not long after the fall in the Commune insurrection of 1871. of Constantinople, there is no one to- one of the persons thus benefited being day who can show a more clear and uninterrupted descent from the old Greek sador to Rome.

sovereigns of the Eastern Empire, or

of the Palæologues to Constantinople

than the present Czar of Russia.

associate his father, the universally nesty in 1867 to all those concerned in The celebrations already organized and Orthodox Church of Russia, with him, who had escaped the gallows only by now about to commence of the patriotic He caused him to sit on his right hand flight, subsequently being appointed by ukases in their joint names, thereby giv. Empire. a rout that may be said to have first ing his decrees not only temporal but broken the power of Napoleon, to have likewise ecclesiastical authority. Michael destroyed his prestige and to have in- was succeeded by his son Alexis, who to all those concerned in the Confederate augurated the subsequent series of was twice married. By his first wife, struggle against the Union. And, thanks events culminating in his overthrow, Maria Miloslavskaja, he had two sons, to this, Confederate statesmen and solcannot fail under the circumstances to named Theodore and Ivan, and a daughrevive in the breasts of the moujiks ani- ter Sophia. After the death of Czarina pions of Uncle Sam, and have achieved those French whom they have been ashkine during one of the latter's period- vices to the Inited States. It was the taught since their infancy by their ical visits to her godmother, Mme. Mat-Church to hate and to curse. And since vieff, at Moscow. He married her, and sible for President McKinley to intrust the celebrations are to be national, and of this union was born the prince who the command of the cavalry in the brief

## A BLOW TO RUSSIAN NOBILITY.

son, Feodor, who, although reputed a man of weak mentality, inflicted one of the most crushing blows upon the Muscovite nobility ever sustained by the aristocracy of any country. Up to that time no noble could take any office which other persons who would make undestrable was inferior to the one which his an- guests. Professor Caspal Reno Gregory, cestors had held or could accept a place subordinate to any one who had fewer student of biblical manuscripts, who loforebears than himself. This question of cated in Kansas City recently at the Fine ancestry and of pedigree led to interminable quarrels both at court and in camp; so much so that Czar Feodor at sula of Akte, the easternmost of three little length invited all the families of the peninsulas below Macedonia," Professor aristocracy to deliver up to him their Gregory explained. "It is called Mount of pedigrees, patents and papers for ex-amination and registration. Having obof Russia that they fall to realize that the Romanoffs had exercised sovereign fore their cyes. Thanks to this, there fore their cyes. Thanks to this, there fore the description of the Romanoffs had exercised sovereign are no family documents, nobiliary patars of calling the great city of St. Petersburg into existence on the desert swamp at the mouth of the Neva.

The first of the Romanoffs to occupy the throne of the Czars was Michael of that name, who at the age of sixteen of the parties are mentioned.

The first of the Boyars to be their than me, who at the age of sixteen was elected by the Boyars to be their nuler in February, 1613, at Moscow. He was chosen on the nomination of Demotry. There are, however, no government buildings, no president or other officeolders.

The only police force is composed of men who patrol the coast to keep out women and men who have no permit the coast to keep out women and men who have no letter of permission from the reign of Czar Feodor, and any claim to ancestry more remote can only the based on purely circumstantial evidence; that is to say, on historical records that is to say, on historical records the parties are mentioned.

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noble birth, he divorced, while the son she bore him was put to death for treason, some say by Peter's own hand. This son had married Charlotte, Princese of Brunswick. After she had given birth

New-York & Pe

a son (who eventually succeeded to the throne as Peter II) Charlotte was officially announced to have succumbed to a sudden illness, but is known to have escaped to America with a German officer in the service of her father-in-law FOUND IT HARD TO ENLIST eating our animals." and to have spent the remaining years of her life in peace and happiness in Louisiana, she and her second and German husband finding their last resting place not far from New Orleans, while her son by her previous marriage with the ill-fated Czarevitch, succeeded his grandfather, Peter the Great, under the and navy who served in the Franco-Gertitle of Peter II.

It is fitting, on the whole, that Russia should celebrate the third centenary of Michael Romanoff's election to the throne of Russia by official and popular rejoicing, for the nation owes a great debt to the Romanoffs, a fact which is too often overlooked. In the days when James town and other American cities were founded Russia was still steeped in the worst form of Oriental barbarism, and civilization flourished in France under Louis XIV. It is under the direction and guidance of the Romanoffs that these into a constitutional monarchy. It is the Romanoffs, in one word, who have turned the face of Russia from the rising to the setting of the sun.

this double celebration now at hand in Russia-namely, that of the centenary of the victory over the French and of the tercentenary of Romanoff rule-will be the wholesale amnesty of criminal, military and particularly of political offenders, which will be granted by the their sentences reduced, their punishments commuted, or else will receive a free pardon. Refugees in this country will be free to return to the land of their birth in safety, and it is no exaggerabecome the objects of his clemency personally prepared for him by his own confidential agents, whom he can trust; that is to say, by the men who since the war with Japan have been devoting all their time under his personal direcand punishment of official corruption. dishonesty and malfeasance, especially among the higher dignitaries. In fact, the Czar is taking every conceivable precaution to have the amnesty benefit

#### vitch. AMNESTIES OF RARE OCCURRENCE

the occasion of the birth of the Czare.

especially those which restore to the benefited the rights of citizenship. Natorious campaign in Italy in 1859, and of Gambetta, issued in January, 1879, Camille Barrere, to-day French Ambas-

England has enacted four amnesties. who has a greater priority to the rights namely, at the time of the Stuart restoration, in 1661, and after the two Michael Romanoff, on his election in and again in 1903 to the Boers. Em-1613 as Czar, was shrewd enough to peror Francis Joseph granted an amrevered Archbishop Theodore, Patriarch the Hungarian insurrection of 1849, one of Moscow and Metropolitan of the of its leaders, Count Julius Andrassy, on the throne and issued all edicts and him to the Chancellorship of the Dual

Here in the United States amnesties were granted in 1865 and again in 1871 diers have developed into stanch chamamnesty, in fact, that rendered it posbut successful war with Spain to that gallant ex-Confederate general, "Joe" EX-ATTACHE. Wheeler.

## POPULATION ALL MEN.

There is a womanless republic on a peninsula south of Macedenia, in Greece, where 10,000 men live, studying and praying constantly, and where policemen guard the course to keep out women pilgrims and theologian of the University of Leipzig, Arts institute, told of this most unique of all countries.

"The place is Mount Athos, classic penin

## FIGHTING FOR FRANCE

Franco-German War.

#### Long Strife Wasn't Expected, but He Had Opportunity for Much Active Service.

A record of veterans of the French army

man War and who live in New York and New Jersey was made up for Bastile Day this year and gave the number as 6,534. All these veterans are entitled to a medal under a recent act of the French Republic. One of the resident survivors is an American, W. D. Forbes, a mechanical engineer. He is a native of Perth Amboy, N. J. At the outbreak of the war he was a student at a technical institute in Paris. He volinteered his services, but found difficulty being accepted because the opinion of he officers was that the army would be in Berlin in a month and that not more than two-thirds of the armed forces would be used in conquering Prussia and her confederates in the German states. France expected that Italy and Austria would aid and her and that Denmark would lend its navy

Through Louis Blanc young Forbes got into the service in a company of scouts and sharpshooters. In speaking of his exeriences to a reporter the other day Mr. Forbes said:

The object for which companies like that of which I was a member was organized was to operate well forward and develop the enemy and then retire. As matters turned out, however, the enemy invariably developed us, but the companies were use ful in scouting and acquired a great deal Perhaps the most notable feature of of sound information. At one time my company was sixty miles in the rear of the Germans operating against Strasburg. The French rifles were far better than the Prussian needlegun. The chassepot had a much greater effective range and was easlly kept in order. Our fellows could al-ways kill many of the enemy with rifles before they could get a bullet among us. Emperor. Many thousands will have The German artillery had a longer range than ours, but it was not so well served. While the Germans fired four shots our fellows fired six or seven

"In taking villages from the Germans we always used rifles or bayonets, and sometimes both. We rarely falled to drive the tion to state that tens of thousands of Germans out, but in most cases they got back again by shelling us out with ardom and to their families. Nicholas II tillery. Our machine guns were in good is having the list of those who are to condition and were admirably served. In one battle the 1st Regiment of Brandenberg Grenadiers lost 87 per cent of its mer in charging against machine guns. Most of them were killed as soon as they got within our range.

o were the uniforms, but there were gross tion and authority to the investigation frauds in most of the departments that which I saw unpacked for serving to men with bricks. One department of great value to the French was the intelligence bureau the people whom he has in view, without The officers and men who belonged to it regard to the government departments | had yellow badges and each platoon bore and to that bureaucracy which is the a yellow flag, which meant 'Information curse of Russia. It is intimated that this Patrol.' It worked this way: A regiment will be the last amnesty of the present marched along and met some one from the reign, the first having been granted on the littligence department, who told them, or hot chocolate or coffee at this or that place. It then was the duty of the intellithey wished to be for refreshing the men.

"In hundreds of ways the information men made themselves of great use to the army. They had perfected maps and knew all the roads. The stories that French generals had no maps and were often lost in their own country never had any founda tion in fact. The Germans used French his uncle, the first Emperor of the maps throughout their campaign and found them accurate. It often happened in my company and battalion that we came to deserted villages, the names of which we did not know. That was because it was no part of our business to study maps; we were feeling the lines of the enemy's communications and taking shots at the Ger-

"Despite the hard fortune of the French army, the men and inferior officers were always in good spirits and made lots of ficers were of the kind who said: 'Follow me, boys,' rather than: 'Go forward, boys.' The marching was rapid, and after the men Jacobite rebellions, in 1715 and 1745, halted and ordered to take off the stocking on the right foot and put it on the left foot and change the other stocking, then shake the shoes well to free them from pebbles or dust. Then they were ordered to loosen their shirts and waistbands and then recline upon the ground for a few minutes and eat something. The result was that the men were wonderfully freshened and went forward at a good pace.

"I made a part of the practice march from Marsellles to Havre recently with a brigade that did the march in record time. I turned into the line at Rouen and went onward to Havre. I noticed that the men were just as intelligent and martial as the men were in the time of the Franco-German war. The soldiers still followed the custom of loosening their uniforms and mosity of an intense character against | Maria he fell in love with Natalie Nar- distinction by the brilliancy of their ser- taking off their shoes for a rest along the line of march. As in my days in the French army, there were lots of good singing and much cutting up when the commands were marched at ease, and the old French custom of perfect good fellowship between officers and men-yet with proper respect for the officers by the men-was in being, just as it was in 1870-'71.

"In my humble opinion, Germany would ose in a war against France to-day. The grave faults in the French army of 1870-'71 were chargeable to a number of high officers who had learned nothing of the modern ways of fighting that were developed in the Civil War in our country. The Prince de Joinville and two of his nephews who had been with the Army of the Potomac in a hard campaign, did all that they could to induce some of the French officers high in command to adopt ideas that served well in the American Civil War. The French and the German military academies possessed most exhaustive reports upon the new ideas in warfare that were brought into being by the ablest men in the contending armles in that war. Although the older officers of the French army seemed to think that battles were to be won by tained possession thereof, he convoked the nobles and, assisted by the clergy, caused the documents to be burned becaused the documents to be burned because the burned poleon the Great. Napoleon wasting half a day at Waterloo waiting for the field to

achievements by cavalry in modern days. One bit of stupidity by a French fossilized commander was in ordering the capable and brave American born Colonel Jerome Bonaparte to confine his splendid regiment of cavalry in a fortress. Our Lieutenant An American Engineer in the General Sheridan met Bonaparte one day and asked him why he had been sent to a fortress instead of raiding the enemy's lines. The answer was: "To eat our horses, I suppose; at any rate, we had to live by

### STRANGE BEDS.

Habit conceals all sorts of absurdities. It makes one ache to see an illustration of a Japanese sleeping block, hollowed out just enough to permit of the neck being adjusted thereto. The Germans' notion of night repose does not come much nearer our idea of comfort. There are many ill made and unsatisfactory beds (from the American peint of view) to be found in the Kaiser's dominions.

German beds, almost without exception, are single-so much so, indeed, that the occupant, if he attempts to deviate an inch or two from his position, firds himself sprawling on the floor. The sheets, bed blankets, etc., are made just to fit the beds, and are never wide enough to tuck in. They are seldom more than an inch or two wider than the mattress, and it requires the skill and experience of an acrobat, especially in the case of a foreigner, to keep the bedclothes evenly balanced over

keep the bedclothes evenly balanced over one.

Many of the German hotels use the French pillow, which is about half the size of the mattress and suffed out so hard and plump that about the only benefit the tired traveller gets from it is to have it serve as a rest for his back while he sleeps in a sitting position. The majority of pillows found in Germany, however, are wedge-shaped, of the same material as the mattress, and come to a point near the centre of the bed. On these the sleeper iff he sleeps) rests on an inclined plane, and looks like a body on one of the narrow planks at the Morgue in Paris, with a sheet thrown over it.—Harper's Weekly.

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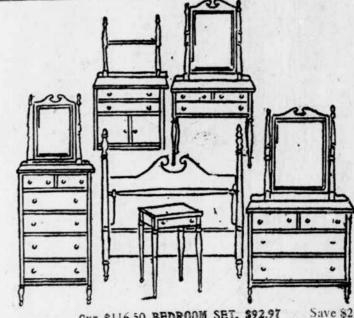
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